

WASHINGTON – Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) released the following statement after tonight’s vote on the GOP tax bill, calling on Republicans to end the political theater and instead focus on creating jobs and protecting the middle class.

“With 13 million Americans out of work and 25 million Americans underemployed, the theater of the absurd continues in Washington, D.C. It is thoroughly frustrating to me, and I know thoroughly frustrating to the American people, that Washington cannot respond to the needs of putting families back to work.

“Rather than pass a payroll tax bill today that would have put money back in the pockets of millions of Americans and protect those who are looking for work, House Republicans brought forward a bill that they know cannot become law because it is loaded with poison pill amendments that are designed to fail in the Senate. Even a Republican senator has said it cannot pass.

“Making matters worse, the Republican bill increases the burden for American seniors and middle class families, without asking the wealthiest to contribute one additional cent.

“This is exactly why Americans are so frustrated with their government.

“As the gamesmanship continues here in Washington, D.C. people are asking for responsible action.

“We need action that will translate into savings for the American people and help stimulate this economy. We need a clean vote on the payroll tax bill. Most of all, we need jobs for the American people.”